

APPLICATION NUMBER: P/19/0090

PROPOSAL: PRE APPLICATION PLANNING ENQUIRY FOR INSTALLATION OF A
49.9MW SOLAR PARK

SITE: Land adjacent to and south of Rush Wall, Redwick, Newport

It is understood that an Environmental Statement is required and this will include a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment working to a 5km computer generated Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV).

- Following initial site assessment by the landscape architect, based on the proposals and likely impacts, discussion with the local authority will be required to agree view-points for analysis. The LVIA should include assessment of views outside the 5km zone from elevated land to the north within the Wentwood Special Landscape Area, and there may be impacts on views from across the Bristol Channel to be considered.
- Impacts from access improvements should also be included in the LVIA.
- The historic field pattern and drainage features should be conserved and remain unaffected by any proposed level changes.
- The outstanding historic interest of the levels is poorly understood outside academic circles and is under threat as a consequence. The Levels are rich in surviving earthworks (surface ridging, mainly grips) and field patterns but also in buried archaeology.
- Mapping of existing and potential Green Infrastructure (GI) assets both **within and adjoining/linking to the site** should be undertaken with measures to protect, maintain, and enhance GI within and around the site incorporated into the design proposals.
- Mitigation measures should be appropriate to conserving the strong landscape character.
- Proposals for new tree and hedgerow planting, and wildflower seeding should be discussed with NCC Biodiversity to ensure they are appropriate for the site location given the SSSI designation.
- There may be opportunities to link with the Living Levels project. This is HLF funded, led by the RSPB with Newport City Council as a partner. The following documents were produced for the project by Chris Blandford Associates and should be referred to:
 - Living Levels Landscape Character Assessment 2017
 - Gwent Levels Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy 2017